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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

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THURSDAY, FEB. 25, 1915.

Mayor Wilson's Pledges Measured Against His Tax Rate and His Performances With Warrenite

T IS DIFFICULT to read Mayor Wilson's statements made just before he entered the office of mayor, and just after his first inauguration, without obtaining the view that he was then filled with a spirit of reform and that he sincerely desired to furnish a good administration and to give the best government for the lowest cost.

But a comparison of the mayor's words with his acts proves that after he took up the responsibilities of government, he be- The inhabitants along the coast loaded their belongings into all sorts came the mere instrument of predatory politics, so that soon all his good resolutions were cast to the winds and all his promises became as chaff.

That this conclusion may stand upon proof and not upon me re assertion, let act be measured against promise, and promise against act, in a few of the typical cases which may be urged. In his message of Dec. 4, 1911, the mayor gave these pledges:

I believe the public works department should be under absolute control of the city engineer and that he should be solely responsible for the proper conduct of the office of Director of Public Works, as well as the office of city engineer.

It works, as well as the office of city engineer.

I am opposed absolutely to the creation of office for political purposes, and such offices as now exist, which can be readily, and without destroying efficiency, should be consolidated, by ordinance or charter amendments as soon as possible. In this way much saving can be accomplished for the tax payers.

I believe all work, except such as is extremely urgent, should be advertised for, as required by ordinance, and awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, and that the waiver of the mayor should not be requested except in great emergencies.

In his message of June 3, 1912, he said:

I believe this city can and should be properly maintained on a uniform 15 mill tax rave.

uniform 15 mill tax rate. am a firm believer in the merit system as to our city employes. He believed in 1912 that public work should be let to bid,

and that the mayor's waiver should not be sought except in AT EMERGENCIES.

But before the end of 1913 he had managed a contract the Brench commander, Tate, was so impressed that he offered to GREAT EMERGENCIES.

with the Warrenite people for a great sum of money. There was no "urgency" and no "great emergency." Encouraged by the success of this violation of his pledge.

the altempted, in 1914, to give an additional \$160,000 of public money to the owners of Warrenite and gave his necessary waiver in writing.

There was no urgency and no "great emergency." The transaction was illegal, and though the mayor was advised as to the illegality by his city attorney, he proceeded, and the confract is now suspended by an order of the superior court.

In this matter the city engineer, was not only not the head of the Public Works department, but his views were subordinated, and Director Courtade was made the instrument through and on the morning of the twentywhich the mayer carried out his purpose to buy Warrenite.

In 1912 the mayor was opposed to the unnecessary crealion of public places, but by 1913 he had engaged in the whole-of those confined in a jail in Pemsale creation of such places, and swelled the police force by an unprecedented number of men, in face of large public opposition. Not only this, but he has entirely neglected to carry out or attempt to carry out, the consolidation of offices, by which as he had said, "much money could be saved to the tax-

The experts, employed for \$20,000 to investigate the city's plen of doing business, recommended a number of such consol-

In 1912 the mayor was a firm believer in the merit system for city employes, but has not in any degree kept his promise to put it into effect, though the law might have been put to vote, upon a ten per cent petition of the citizens, which the mayor might have obtained at any time.

Moreover he has participated in the violent destruction of the merit system in Connecticut, attempted by the Roraback machine in the General Assembly?

His pledges with respect to the tax rate have been numerous and unkept.

In 1912, while his pledges were fresh in mind, he did ar-

Instead of an efficient government economically administered Bridgeport has received an administration which costs \$560,000 more per annum than it did just before Mayor Wilson and Portugal. His present wife is a German, and his first spouse, the

creased by almost \$3,000,000. And the worst is yet to come. The full effect of debt upon the tax rate has not been realized. The state tax has been which its people entertain a cordial delayed. The school tax has been cut. The city's working bal-

the bill. From these acts, measured by the mayor's pledges, it must the concluded that he has been liberal in words but stingy in tions against Bulgaria after her suc performance. He has been enthusiastic in spending money, not in saving it. His enthusiasm for spending reaches high tide tron and protector of Bulgaria, but in the Warrenite contracts, which will receive the attention of King Ferdinand has manifested great the voters in the next campaign.

THE MILITARY SPIRIT

OL. ROOSEVELT is warm for military interference in one ROOSEVELT is warm for military interference in one It is also a position of power and responsibility, as it is believed that only the fear of Bulgaria has and consequently the tobacco contry is fortunate in not having him for president now. the country is fortunate in not having him for president now. These are times when soft answers are more serviceable than the allies. big sticks.

A GENERAL WITH IMAGINATION

TAJOR GENERAL Francis V. Greene, U. S. A., retired, has a vivid imagination, but not much of a gift for comparing conditions.

Consider what has happened. Out of a state of profound peace, frum was practically destroyed in just thirty-one days. How Belgium was practically destroyed in just thirty-one days. How did that happen? Simply because Belgium was not sufficiently prepared. And if you say that this could not happen to us because of our immense resources, and because of the ocean which reparates us from the nations of Europe, I reply there is no easier mark than a rich nation unprepared for defense.

Belgium is a buffer state in the matter of armed nations. Has entire population was not as great as the number of armed supreme dictatorship of Chile, but men engaged in the war. That she had some defense was the in the rebellion in Peru. He capturcause of her partial destruction. If she had none there is a ed and occupied Lima and Cause than Luxemberg. England, separated from the seat of war by leadership, and San Martin, to escape live stock yards.

a silver strip of water, has not been "practically destroyed." The difference in our own military resources and England's, is more than compensated by 3,000 miles of ocean.

The United States ought to have a large navy, and and adequate defense for the city of New York. But it will not help much to measure New York's danger by a comparison with Belgium.

ANNIVERSARY OF LAST INVASION OF ENGLAND.

It was just 118 years ago today, or Feb. 25, 1797, that the last invasion of an enemy on the shores of England came to an ignominous end with the surrender of the French army which had landed near Fish-guard. Now that Great Britain is again threatened by raiding Germans the story of that exploit of more than century ago assumes new interest On the twenty-second of February in 1797 three ships and a lugger, sailing under English colors, were sighted off Pembrokeshire. A sailor recognized them as French vessels, although they flew the British colors, and at once sounded the alarm. Ar-rived off Fishguard, the fleet struck the English flag and sent aloft a French ensign. There was wild ex-Itement, and messengers were dispatched in all directions to arouse the people to the threatened danger. of vehicles and set out for the in-terior. There they told wild stories of the approach of a fleet of vast proortions, with a tremendous army on oard. The men who remained behind, however, prepared to resist the invasion. The lead of a cathedral roof was cast into bullets, and those unprovided with muskets armed emselves with scythes, clubs and other crude weapons. By the time the Frenchmen landed at Pencaer, near Fishguard, several thousand them a lively reception.

The French army consisted of 600 regulars and 800 convicts, who had been released from prison for the purpose of taking part in the invasion. On the twenty-fourth several English vessels salled out to attack the French fleet, and the latter salled away, leaving the invading army

By the evening of the twenty-fourth a little army of soldiers and militia, under the command of Lord Cawdor, reached the scene and formed in battle array. Citizens and even any women, wearing red clothing surrender, provided that he and his nen should be placed on ships and ent back to France.

Lord Cawdor replied that immediate and unconditional surrender was the only terms he had to offer, and that unless the enemy capitulated by two o'clock of the twenty-fifth he would march against them with 10,-000 men and drive the invaders into the sea. The 10,000 men existed only in the English commander's imagination, but he had so displayed his lit-tle force as to give the appearance of

a large army. Gen. Tate was not disposed to doubt the word of the British leader, the French troops laid down their arms. The invaders were marched to various prisons, where they were marched at the point of a pitchfork to the guardhouse at Fishguard. Jemima became a national heroine, but, as the men she captured were convicts, and had no stomach for fighting, perhaps they were only too will to be arrested.

KING FERDINAND.

Ferdinand, Czar of Bulgaria, will be fifty-four years old tomorrow, but there will be no celebrating in the royal palace at Sofia, for the Balkan Car is just now a man of many trou-oles. He occupies the most difficult position imaginable, for his country is still on the verge of famine as a result of the war with Turkey and the subsequent disastrous conflict with Serbia and Greece, which made range a tax rate of 15.2 mills. But in 1913 the rate was 17.4; The Czar is of German blood, the in 1914 was 19.2 and in 1915, 18 mills.

Instead of an afficient government seconomically administration and Gotha, but his mother was a daughter of King Louis Philippe of France, and he is also related to the royal families of Belgium, England mother of his two sons and two daughters, was a daughter of Duke Robert of Parma. Bulgaria is en-tirely surrounded by nations toward hatred. Turkey is Bulgaria's hereditary enemy, and it would be difficult ments. They postpone the day of reckoning, but do not settle other hand, Bulgarians have a quite natural detestation for Serbia, Greece and Roumania, as a result of the conflict which turned those nacessful campaign against Turkey. Russia was long considered the pacordislity toward Austria, the sworn foe of Russia. Many other conflict-ng personal and national interests enter into the relations of Ferdinand with the warring powers, and his position has become a most difficult om entering the war on the side

SAN MARTIN.

The founder of the republics of Argentina and Chile was Joe de San Martin, wite was born in what is new the Argentina republic 137 years ago today. San Martin began his career as a soldier in the service of Spain, tenant-colonel. In 1811 he returned to his native land and headed the patrict forces in insurrection. patrict forces in insurrection against Spain. For two years he drilled his For two years he drilled his army and then began the perilous march across the Andes, where he net and defeated the royalist forces and freed Chile. He was offered the supreme dictatorship of Chile, but

civil strife, gave way to his rival "for the good of the cause." Refusing all honors that were offered him, San Martin retired from South American affairs and went to France, where he lived in comparative poverty until his death in 1856.

JOHN BURKE, UNCLE SAM'S TREASURER, IS 36 TODAY.

Guardian of Uncle Sam's bulging cash-box is the distinguished occupa-tion of John Burke, of North Dakota, who is the twenty-fourth treasurer of the United States. Mr. Burke was born fifty-six years ago today, Feb. 25, 1859, in Keokuk county, Iowa, and, as may be suspected from his name, his father was Irish. So, too, was his mother. Mr. Burke studied law at the State University of Iowa and practiced in Des Moines for a couple of years before he removed in 1888 to North Dakota. He hung out his shingle in Devils Lake, which is not such a bad place as it sounds, and soon became a leading legal light He served in the state legislature for some years, and in 1906 became gov ernor of his devoted state. As Mr. Burke, like his father before him, was overwhelmingly and conclusive ly Democratic in his political affiliations, and North Dakota was decidedly Republican, his opponents looked upon his candidacy as something of a joke—until the votes were count-ed. Then it was found that Burke had been elected, although the remainder of the Democratic ticket Englishmen were assembled to give had been defeated. Twice thereafter he ran for governor, and both times ocratic national convention met in Baltimore in 1912 Burke was a national figure, and he still shudders whenever he thinks of what a narrow escape he had from being nominated for the vice-presidency. On April first, 1913, he was commissioned United States treasurer, in which position he gets \$8,000 a year for look-ing after millions and millions and millions. Treasurer Burke not long ago assumed the role of prophet, and predicted that the United States was facing the period of greatest pros-perity in its history. "For years to come," Mr. Burke declared recently, "the United States is to be the one great nation on earth, financially agriculturally and industrially." The European holocaust, he believes, will force the United States to the fore-front and keep it there "for years perhaps for centuries, maybe for-ever," and make it "the richest and happiest country in the world."

BRITISH PUBLIC READ ONLY STORIES OF WAR

London, Feb. 25-Confessions of well known literary men that they have lost all apetite for modern to other times, has led to an investigation by some of the papers as to what the general public now reads. It has been learned from the libraries that there has been a general falling off in the reading of modern fiction. What part of it the public likes bears directly on the war, such as "All for characters of the war, particularly the Kalser.

HALF-CASTES OF INDIA WOULD GO INTO BATTLE

London, Feb. 25:—The petition of the Eurasians, or half-casttes of India to raise some regiments of their own has caused the war office considerable uneasiness because of t delicate social questions in volved. Eurasians are in the unfortunate position of being neither whites nor They are not admitted into white society as a rule, and are dis-liked or despised by the natives of unmixed parentage. At the same time they feel themselves superior

to the natives because of their white The whites and Eurasians could get along very well together at the front, but the imperial authorities fear the Indian regiments would re-sent the formation of a distinctly Eurasian soldiery, and would be

The War Office is now trying to put the damper on the project with-out offending the loyalty and the sensibilities of an important element of the Indian population.

sides refuse to associate with them in

THANKFUL TO PRINCESS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

London, Feb. 25—The father of a member of the British expeditionary force has lodged a protest with the government against having to pay a duty of six pence on one of Princess Mary's Christmas gifts to the soldiers, which was sent home by the

Princess Mary sent a little box of comforts and delicacies to every man in uniform on foreign soil. Many of the recepients sent their boxes home as souvenirs to be tressured in after years. Although the boxes went out with the army supplies, those sent heavy customs tax. According to the officials, the six pence must be paid inasmuch as the Princess failed to

export her gifts in bond.
One of the Christmas boxes sent to the front was packed by the Prin-cess Mary herself, who put in a slip of paper asking the recipient to send an acknowledgement to Buckingham The finder did so in these Palace.

Received

A firm of Berlin bankers presented to the German Crown Prince a completely equipped hospital train of thirty-six cars.

A pair of lambs born in the sheepfold at Central Park on Washington's birthday were named Martha and George Washington.

A limited traffic in cattle, the first

Stratford Ave. Bridge Now

Stratford avenue bridge and leave the present structure open to all kinds of traffic until the new bridge is completed," said J. E. Greiner of Baltimore one of the engineers who has been employed by the Stratford avenue bridge commission to build the new span over the Pequonnock river. Mr. Greiner and his partner, Howard Whitman, were inspecting the approaches to the bridge yester-day preliminary to drawing sketches of what they think will be the prope

structure.
The engineers expect that their work of inspection and sketching will take several days and it will at least a week before they have a tangible plan prepared. Engineer Griener favors retaining the present Stratford avenue structure in place until a new bridge is built because of the exces cost of a temporary structure and the inconvenience which will be suffered by vehicular traffic now us ing the bridge.

William I. Allen, Walter B. Lashar and Secretary Blackham of the bridge ission with Mayor Wilson mei the engineers in the city hall Tuesday night. The "Y" plan of approach in a straight line west from Stratford avenue, and from Nichols streets was shown the engineers and they thought it might be worked out although they will recommend nothing until they have gone over the ground.

BELGIAN REFUGEES MAKING UNIFORMS

London, Feb. 25-Hundreds of Belgian refugees, both men and wo men, are finding employment in the neighboring towns, where thousands of yards of khaki for uniforms, are turned out daily.

Every important mill in the Huddersfield district is working night and day, and the industry has been up until it can go no faster. While London sleeps in almost complete darkness, the Huddersfield valley at night is lighted more brilliantly than in peace times, scores of the huge mills throwing out from their thousands of windows a glare which illuminates the entire country

ADMIRAL JELLICOE NOT WIDELY KNOW!

London, Feb. 25-No popular sallor is so little known personally to the British people as Admiral Jellicoe. Yet the admiral has an adventurous record and has three times in his career recovered from wounds that were at first believed to be fatal.

Jellicoe comes of a family of French extraction, and his father was a Scrap of Paper." Kipling's tales a sallor. As a midshipman, he exhave been reprinted and take well celled his fellows in his studies and with the civilians, although the Kip- attention to duty and won nearly all lingesque soldier has never been pop-ualr in the British army. The books ship. He took part in the bombard-most sought, however, are war books ment of Alexandria, fought at Telwith the principal el-Kebir, and had a narrow escape from drowning when the Victoria He also fought during Boxer rebellion in China. As an administrator his career was no less distinguished, for he served as Di-rector of Naval Ordnance and as Con-

troller of the Navy.

A writer describes him as a slen-der man below average height with calm gray eyes and an air of perfect confidence. At the same time there is a lurking sense of humor in the lines about the eyes and mouth. In his small, wiry figure, he resembles the late Lord Roberts.

Admiral Jellicoe has always bee immensely popular with the enlisted men of the navy, by whom he is known variously as Jackey-Oh, Hellfire Jack and also as Silent Jack from the fact he seldom speaks uness he wants something done.

Davilmar Theodor, president of Hayti, abdicated and took refuge on the Dutch steamer Frederick Hendrik in the harbor of Port au Prince.

The government's anti-trust suit against the International Harvester Co. was advanced by the supreme court for argument April 5.

Russia will form a Polish army to be put in the field officered by Poles and speaking the Polish language.

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Clothing

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	Suits\$2.50
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The Spring Lines of Baby Carriages now ready for inspection.

Experts in child hygiene have had the planning of these carriages, and no detail of reversible running gear. easy springs, upholstery work, wind shields, or other item. conducive to the health and well being of the small occupants has been omitted. Hence a carriage for comfort and health, as well as being fine enough in appearance for a young princess.

Made up in Rattan, finished in white enamel, French gray, brown, natural, and candy color, which latter is a novelty.

All have flexible springs, all have backs adjustable to sleeping coach position. The interiors have reversible corduroy linings and cushions. A corduroy wind shield protects the occupant from spring breezes that are too

The finest line of carriages we have ever handled.

Fouth floor.

Silk Stockings, new shades.

To match boot tops. All the new putty and sand colors, the shade known as "Palm Beach;" a green that is cool looking and sleek, a gold that is warm and lustrous, smoke color, beige, suede and fawn.

\$1.00 a pair and lovely. See them!

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Vests in all models. Tights, knee or ankle length. Union Suits, all models,

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Exquisitely fine and filmy Nightgowns of Crepe de Chine, white or palest pink, edged with Cluny lace, \$3.98 and up to \$8.00.

Italian Silk Gowns, beautifully made and trimmed,

Envelope Chemises, Nainsook, fine quality,75 ets. Embroidered, \$1.00. Crepe de Chine. \$3.50

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Now 50 cts, widths 45 and 54 inches.

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The Public Health Service in Washington announced that 33,000 cases of trachoma, a serious eye disease, exist in the Kentucky Moundestre to join her in death, and died

Colonel Marchand, who won fame in

a few minutes later.

Harry Lauder, the Scotch come-Fashoda, in the Upper Soudan, was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general in the French army.

dian, organized a band of pipers to tour Scotland and the north of England to stimulate recruiting.